MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes _____ no _X

erty Name:	Hall of Mount Hope Lodge Nu	umber 2	Inventory Number:	K-511
Address: 5827 Cros	by Road	City: Rock Hall	Zip Code:	21661
County: Kent	U	SGS Topographic Map:	Rock Hall Quad	
Owner: Aaron Unit	ed Methodist Church	Is t	he property being evaluated	l a district?yes
Γax Parcel Number:	377 Tax Map Number: 51	Tax Account ID N	umber: 024471	
Project: Rock Hal	l Proposed Microwave/Radio To	wer Agen	cy: Department of Budget a	nd Management
Site visit by MHT Sta	aff: X no yes	Name:	Date:	
s the property locate	d within a historic district?	_yes <u>X</u> no		
If the property is with	hin a district	District Inv	entory Number:	
NR-listed district	yes Eligible district	_yes	ne:	
Preparer's Recomm	endation: Contributing resource	eyesno Non-	contributing but eligible in	another context
If the property is not	within a district (or the property	is a district)		
	endation: Eligible yes			+
161				
Prepared by:	property/district is presented in	K-511 Date	Prepared: 10.5.2	2005
Architectural	**************************************	•	•	
	Description			
Introduction				
	t Hope Lodge Number 2, located f others constructed in the Rock I		a late-nineteenth-century, ga	able-end vernacular
-50 55				
The property occur. The parcel comprise	pies the parcel of land designated ises 0.75 acres.	as tax parcel number 37	on map number 51 for Ke	nt County, Maryland.
Much of this cont	ext is derived from information co	ontained on the Maryland	Historical Trust State Histo	oric Sites Inventory
	erty (K-511), completed in 1982.		1100011011	
MARYLAND H	ISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	,		
Eligibility recom	mended X Eligibility	not recommended		
Criteria:	T - T	Considerations: A	BCDE_	F G None
3ionifica	nce for associat	rompromise b	C "Beneficial Soci	ot "movement -
example			acteristic of the	
Review	er, Office of Preservation Service	ces /	Date	
- /	2Kmy	10/18	05	
	Reviewer, NR Gogram		Date	

20050304Z

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

K-511: Hall of Mount Hope Lodge Number 2

K-511

Exterior Description

The Hall of Mount Hope Lodge Number 2 is a two-and-a-half-story, three-bay, frame structure that faces west with the ridge of its gable roof perpendicular to Crosby Road. The original rectangular footprint remains intact and is oriented on a west-east axis. The west, south, and east elevations of the main block are clad in vinyl siding, while red asphalt shingles cover the exterior of the north elevation. A single-story, three-bay addition was attached to the rear (east) gable end of the main block during the first decade of the twentieth century in order to provide kitchen facilities. This rear addition is clad with vinyl siding on the south elevation, while the east and north elevation is covered with red asphalt shingle. The main block and addition sit upon a twentieth-century, brick-pier foundation. The gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles.

The west (front) elevation is three-bays wide and symmetrical. A central single-leaf, wooden door comprises the main entry. A single, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wooden window occupies each bay to the north and south of the main entry. Two evenly spaced, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wooden windows occupy the second floor. A single-story, shed-roof porch stretches across the entire west elevation. Four evenly spaced, squared, wooden posts support the shed roof which is covered in asphalt shingles. A poured concrete slab comprises the porch floor.

The main block of the south elevation contains three evenly spaced bays. The two westernmost bays of the first floor contain a single, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wooden window. The easternmost bay contains a secondary entrance consisting of a modern single-leaf aluminum door. A brick, interior chimney bisects the two westernmost bays. Three evenly spaced, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wooden windows make up the south elevation of the rear kitchen addition.

The first and second floors of the east elevation of the main block are concealed by the gable roof of the single-story, rear kitchen addition. Therefore, no openings are visible on the east elevation of the main block. The east elevation of the rear addition contains two evenly spaced bays. The southernmost bay consists of the rear entrance, which is comprised of a single-leaf wooden door. The northernmost bay contains a six-over-six, double-hung sash, wooden window. A brick, interior chimney divides the two bays and protrudes from the gable end of the rear addition.

The north elevation of the main block consists of three evenly spaced bays. The first and second floors each contain three evenly spaced, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wooden windows. The north elevation of the rear kitchen addition contains three evenly spaced bays consisting of six-over-six, double-hung sash, wooden windows.

Interior Description

The interior of the Hall of Mount Hope Lodge Number 2 was inaccessible during the site visit.

Surrounding Landscape

This three-quarter of an acre site is relatively flat and sits fairly close to Crosby Road. Dense woodland surrounds the property to the north and east of the dwelling. Mature trees are also located to the south of the property. A small, one-and-a-half-story bungalow occupies the parcel of land to the south of the lodge. The Aaron United Methodist Church, who currently owns the lodge, is located across Crosby Road immediately to the west of the lodge.

History and Significance

The lodge was built in the last quarter of the nineteenth century in which to house a "beneficial society" called "Mt. Hope Lodge No. 2, Order of Truth and Light." On November 2, 1880, the society was incorporated with the goal of the "advancement of the condition of our race (African-American) and the care and assistance of the sick and distressed." Popularly known as a "sickness and death" lodge, the building provided a systematic, community-run way to assist families of

¹ History taken from information contained in the Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form for the property (K-511), completed in 1982.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 2

K-511: Hall of Mount Hope Lodge Number 2

K-511

the sick. The original function of the lodge became obsolete with the advent of the Kent County hospital in 1935 and Medicare and Medicaid in the 1960s.

Since the late nineteenth century, the surrounding community has used the lodge for a church meeting place, school, and social hall. The second story of the lodge has been used for lodge meetings, and the first story was used for community events, such as church suppers, movies, and large private parties and dinners. Since most of the lodge members were also members of the Aaron Methodist Church across the road, the availability and utility of the lodge negated the need to build a church hall.

The rear kitchen wing, added *circa* 1900-1910, was built to provide kitchen facilities. Shortly thereafter, during a period of overcrowding at the Old Sharptown School, the space was rented by the county school board to house the first three grades. After the New Sharptown School was built in 1927, the rear wing reverted back to its original function as a kitchen facility.

Presently, the lodge still meets on the second floor. The first floor is still utilized as an ancillary meeting place for the Aaron Methodist Church congregation. In addition, community events, mainly church suppers, still take place on the first floor of the lodge.

Significance Evaluation

The Hall of Mount Hope Lodge, Number 2, located at 5827 Rock Hall Avenue, is a representative example of late-nineteenth-century vernacular building traditions in overall massing, building form, and detail. The lodge has undergone several alterations since its construction that have resulted in the overall loss of architectural integrity.

- The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:
 - A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
 - B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past;
 - C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
 - D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

The Hall of Mount Hope Lodge Number 2 is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history and is not eligible under Criterion A.

The property is not eligible under Criterion B has it has no known association with individuals of historical importance.

The Hall of Mount Hope Lodge Number 2 is typical of the domestic architecture of the period and its form is ubiquitous upon the surrounding architectural landscape. The lodge lacks the architectural distinctiveness to qualify it for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. Many aspects of integrity, including workmanship, materials, feeling, and association, have been compromised by various alterations and modifications. Therefore, the lodge is not eligible under Criterion C.

The property was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of the current investigation.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 3

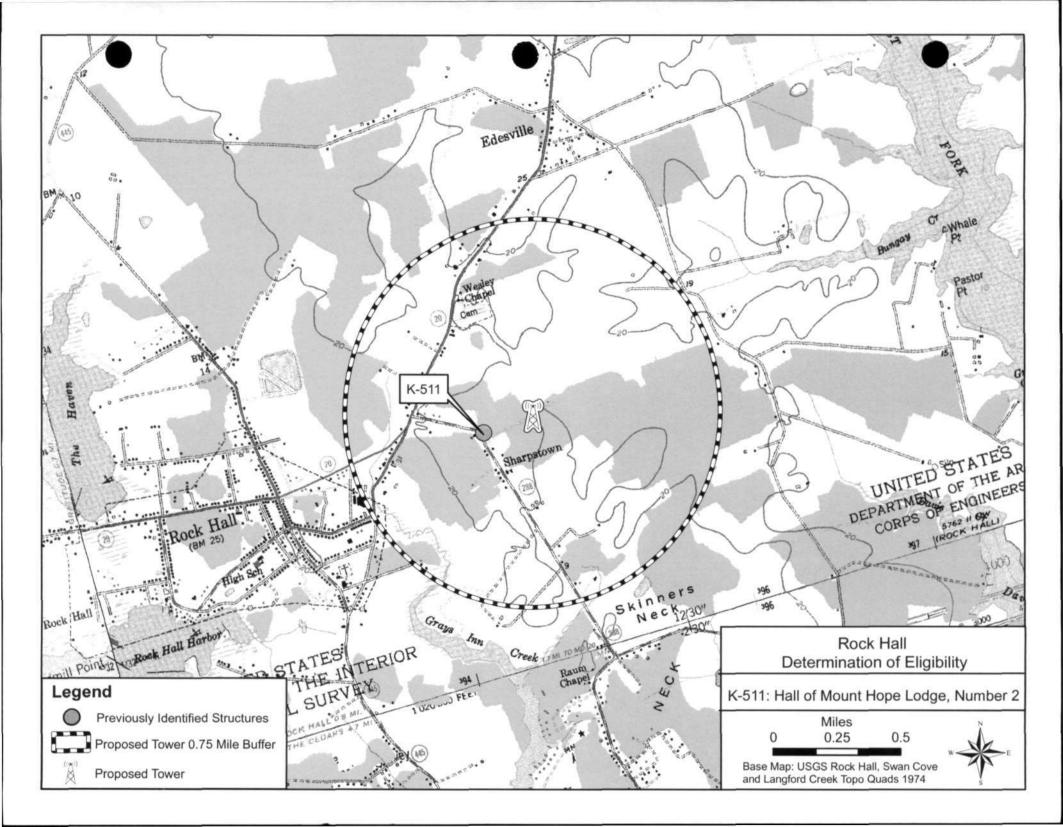
K-511: Hall of Mount Hope Lodge Number 2

K-511

References

McAlester, Virginia and Lee 1984 A Field Guide to American Houses. Alfred A. Knopf, New York.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form (K-511) 1982 Hall of Mount Hope Lodge Number 2, Rock Hall, Kent County, Maryland.





K-511 HALL OF MOUNT HOPE LODGE NO. 2 KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND E. YOUNG 9.28.2005 MD SHPO WEST (FRONT) ELEVATION OF LODGE 2882 28 OND TIPE-186 PHOTO 1 of 4



K-511 HALL OF MOUNT HOPE LODGE NO.Z KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND E. YOUNG 9.28.2005 MD SHPO WEST (FRONT) & NORTH ELEVATIONS OF LODGE PHOTO 2 OF 4



K-511 HALL OF MOUNT HOPE LODGE NO. Z KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND E. YOUNG 9.28.2005 MD SHPO EAST (REAR) ELEVATION & SOUTH ELEVATION OF LODGE PHOTO 3 Of 4



HALL OF MOUNT HOPE LODGE NO. Z

KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

E. YOUNG

9.28, 2005

BURY AND THAT IND

MD SHPO

SOUTH ELEVATION OF LODGE

PHOTO 4 OF 4

Survey No. K-511

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No. 1505115601

1. Nam	e (indicate pre	eferred name)		
	11 of Mt. Hope Lodg	e No. 2	of No. 11	74.
and/or common		ope Lodge No. 2		
2. Loca		ma')		
street & number	East side Sharpton of Rt. 20, East o	wn-Skinners Neck Rd f Rock Hall	., .3 miles south	not for publication
city, town	Rock Hall	_x_ vicinity of	congressional district	irst
state	Maryland .	county	Kent	
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public both Public Acquisition in process being considered X not applicable	Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted _X_ no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation X other: Social
	. Hope Lodge No. 2,	c/o Mrs. William L		
street & number			telephone no).:
	Rock Hall			land 21661
5. Loca	ation of Lega	al Description	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc. Kent	County Court House		liber SB 14
street & number				folio 557
city, town Ch	estertown		state	Marvland 21620
6. Rep	resentation	in Existing	Historical Surv	
title				NONE
tete			federal state	e county loca
depository for su	urvey records			

7. Description

Survey No. K-511

Condition excellent	deteriorated	Check one unaltered	Check one _X_ original site			
good _X_ fair	ruins unexposed	_X_ altered		e of	move	<u> </u>

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Built in the last decade of the 19th century, the 3-bay-wide, mainentry gable end of the 2-story, 3-bay deep portion of this frame lodge hall faces Sharptown Road. A 3-bay, shed-roofed porch was added to this end in the mid-20th century. A 3-bay-deep, 1-story kitchen was added to the rear gable end and used as a schoolroom for grades 1-3 of the Sharptown School during the first quarter of the 20th century. Originally weatherboarded, the exterior is now covered with red "brick" asphalt sheet siding. The interior was not viewed.

	-3								11135.00-124		
Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 X 1800–1899 X 1900–		Areas of Significance—C		heck and justify below community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement industry invention		9 — — — ent —	landscape architectur law literature military music t philosophy politics/government		science sculpture _X_ social/ humanitarian theater		
Specific	dates			7	Builde	r/Archi	tect				
check:	ar	nd/or	Criteria:		B A B	c	D	E	Ŧ	G	

Survey No. K-511

8. Significance

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Level of Significance: national state local

Located in the community of Sharptown, the Mt. Hope Lodge Hall has served for almost 100 years as one of three important community centers for Rock Hall - area blacks (see also K-510, Aaron Chapel, and K-512 and K-513, Sharptown Schools). The second story was reserved for lodge meetings, but the first story was used for church suppers (obviating the need for a hall for Aaron Chapel across the road), movies, and large private parties and dinners. During a period of overcrowding at the small Old Sharptown School (K-512), the rear, kitchen wing housed the first three grades. The lodge itself, a beneficial society popularly called a "sickness and death" lodge, was the community's response to needs not yet met by a local hospital and such social welfare programs as Medicare, Medicaid, and disability and medical insurance. Though its reason for being has largely passed, the lodge still meets, but with a membership of mostly elderly men and women.

10.	Geograp	hical Data	•		
Quadran	of nominated proper gle name erences do NOT		rences	Quadrang	le scale
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C E G			D F H		
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List all s	states and countie	es for properties ove	county	ounty boundaries	code
state		code	county .		code
11.		pared By Fallaw, Surveyor		stes	
organizat street & n	County Commion Historical The C	issioners of Kent (Society of Kent (ourt House h Alley	County d	ate November 9 778-460 elephone 778-349	0
city or to	wn Chest	ertown	s	tate Maryland	21620

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

7.1 DESCRIPTION (continued)

BUILDING FORM AND MATERIAL

- 1. Size
 - Main Section: 2 stories, 3 bays wide (gable end, which faces road and contains main entry), 3 bays deep. Measurements are ca. 18'6" x 34'6" deep.

Wing: 1 story, 2/3 bays wide, 3 bays deep. Measurements are ca. 18'6" wide x 26'7" deep.

- 2. Plan type, main section: one large room, each floor, with stair along rear wall.
- 3. Roof type: gable both sections
- 4. Chimney(s):
 - 1) main section- south side between 1st and 2nd bays, for stove
 - 2) rear gable end, center, of wing
 Materials: brick
 Decorative elements: #1 has 2-course cap
- 5. Material/Walls

Main Section: frame. Details: red imitation-brick asphalt sheet siding over horizontal lapped weatherboard, with painted cornerboards. Wing: frame. Same details.

6. Material/Roofs

Main Section: asphalt shingles over ? Wing: asphalt shingles over wood shingles

7. Material/Foundation

Main section: brick piers, some rebuilt in mid-20th century with new brick.

Wing: same

8. Age

Main section: deed is dated March 4, 1890, recorded Sept. 18, 1891. A building probably was built soon after, at least within the next ten years.

Wing: later

9. Style: vernacular, rural, late Victorian lodge hall. Others in Kent County are similar in appearance.

BUILDING ELEMENTS AND DETAILS

1. Doors

Main Entry: approach gable end, facing road; plain trim is replacement; 4-panel (2/2) door appears to be replacement; porch added 1950's? Secondary entries: 1) south side, 3rd bay to rear (perhaps for access to stair?); plain replacement trim; 4-panel door. 2) Wing, rear gable end, south bay-door with 5 horizontal panels.

7.2 DESCRIPTION (continued)

2. Windows

Main Section: type - double-hung

lights - 6/6, old wavy glass

details: narrow fillet with inside bead trim, wood sills

shutters: removed

Wing: same as main section

3. Dormers: None

4. Roof details

Main section: plain closed-cornice following rafters on underside; overhang of about 10 - 12 inches on all sides.

Wing: same

5. Porches:

Approach gable end, 3 bays wide, not original to building. 4" x 4" posts, shed roof with asphalt shingles, concrete slab on ground with concrete block steps and stoop at door (replaced small set of wooden steps). Built in 1950's?

6. Color: Current: red "brick" siding with white trim
Historic: areas of exposed weatherboard show no paint

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

Interior not viewed by surveyor except through wing windows which did not have obscuring curtains. Member of community described interior.

- 1. Plan type: one large room each floor of main section, 1 room in wing.
- 2. Major stair: straight run, along rear wall of main section
- 3. Major mantels: none

OUTBUILDINGS/SITE DESCRIPTION

1. Outbuildings: a "necessary"

2. Site description

The 3/4 acre site is fairly flat, with an uneven lawn (no trees) to the south which is continuous with the lawn of a house located several lots to the south. A 30 to 40 foot lawn with a paved walk lies between the public road and the gable-end main entry porch. Woods have slowly moved in to about 15-20 feet of the building on the north side and are somewhat more distant at the rear (east).

3. Views to/from site

Sharptown Road is visible to the west, with woods on the opposite side to the west and Aaron Chapel (U.M. Church) to the northwest. There is no view to the north because of nearby woods. About 150 feet to the south is a small, mid-20th century "Cape Cod" house and the lane to the county's Sharptown dump to the south of the house. The Harris-Smith property (K-515) and the Old Sharptown School (K-512) are also seen to the south along the road, as well as several other houses. This is a small rural black community.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION (continued)

USE OF BUILDING

- 1. Current: lodge hall, church hall, private rental use.
- 2. Historic: lodge hall, church hall, private rental use. The rear wing was used as a school room for the overflow from the old Sharptown School (K-512) in the early 20th century, until the new Sharptown School (K-513) was built.

HISTORY OF BUILDING/PAST OWNERSHIP

Informants: Mr. and Mrs. William Lee (Laurine), Grey's Inn, Rock Hall. Incorporation papers in possession of Mrs. Lee, a descendant of one of the lodge's founders.

Organized in 1878, a "beneficial society" called "Mt. Hope Lodge No. 2, Order of Truth and Light" was incorporated on November 2, 1880, with the goal of "the advancement of the condition of our race (black), and the care and assistance of the sick and distressed." Daniel M. Butler, Mrs. Lee's grandfather and a local leader, was first Grand Master; Daniel Kennard was President. There is no local knowledge of a No. 1 lodge of the same name. Popularly known as a "sickness and death" lodge, it provided a systematic, community-run way to assist families of the sick, largely by assigning members in pairs to sit up with the sick so family members could get some sleep, and to prepare the bodies of the dead for burial. Dues sometimes were allocated to assist families whose main wage-earner was sick or injured in the days before medical insurance, disability benefits, and allowed worker "sick days." Dues also provided modest death/insurance benefits. The original functions of the lodge now largely obsolete since the advent of a Kent County hospital in 1935, Medicare in the 1960's and Medicaid, the lodge now has about 18-20 members, both men and women, but mostly women over age 60. They meet periodically for ritual and business purposes. When the lodge began, both men and women were members, but the leaders were men. Mrs. Lee has been a member since 1938. (See also K-503 for another example of a village lodge with similar intent, though in that instance a Knights of Pythias lodge for whites located in Piney Neck)

Probably built ca. 1891-1900, the main section represents a considerable achievement by the black Sharptown community emergent after the Civil War. According to Mr. Lee, it took about 15-20 years after the war for area blacks to accumulate enough cash to enable them to move off nearby farms and build their own homes. Though it is true that by 1850 more than half of Kent County blacks were free rather than enslaved, many of them still lived on the farms on which they were employed, in housing provided by their employers.

The lodge at Sharptown served blacks from the general Rock Hall area: Sharptown itself, Grays Inn in upper Eastern Neck, Biscuit Hill on the Gratitude Road, and until it built its own lodge hall after the turn of the century, the increasingly black community of Edesville-Lovers' Lane.

Over the years the second story has been used for lodge meetings and the first story for community events, such as church suppers of Aaron Chapel

7.4 DESCRIPTION (continued)

(Methodist) across the road. Indeed, since most of the lodge members were also members of that church as well, the church never saw the need to build a church hall. The first story also has been rented for private events, such as family reunions and dinners and wedding receptions because of the small size of most of the community's houses.

The rear wing was added ca. 1900-1910 to provide kitchen facilities. Shortly thereafter it began to handle the overflow student population of the old Sharptown School, housing the first three grades; the space was rented by the county school board. After the new Sharptown School was built in the 1920's, the entire student body was housed in the new building.

